

Message Text

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ACTION DLOS-06

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 SAM-01 CEQ-02 COA-02 COME-00 EB-11 EPA-04

IO-14 NSF-04 SCI-06 FEA-02 ACDA-19 AEC-11 AGR-20

DOTE-00 FMC-04 INT-08 JUSE-00 OMB-01 CG-00 DRC-01

(ISO)W

----- 100216

R 011757Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY NASSAU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5290

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

CINCLANT NORVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L NASSAU 375

CINCLANT FOR POLAND

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MARR, BF

SUBJECT: FACILITIES AGREEMENTS - SEABED USE INFORMATION

REF: NASSAU 1578 OCT 73

1. WHEN THE LAST OF THE MAPS DESCRIBING PROPERTIES ASSOCIATED WITH US MILITARY INSTALLATIONS IN THE BAHAMAS ARRIVES, EMBASSY WILL, UNLESS CONTRARY INSTRUCTIONS RECEIVED, INCLUDE IN THE FORWARDING LETTER TO THE GCOB THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION EXTRACTED FROM THE CORRIGAN/SHLAUDEMAN LETTER I-13098/73 OF NOVEMBER 26, 1973: QUOTE IN ADDITION TO THE PROPERTIES DESCRIBED BY THE ENCLOSED MAPS, THE US GOVERNMENT DESIRES FROM THE GCOB EXCLUSIVE USE OF THE BAHAMIAN PORTION OF THE SEABED ADJACENT TO THE NAVFAC, ELEUTHERA ISLAND AND AUTECH, ANDROS ISLAND, BOUNDED BY
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THE FOLLOWING GEOGRAPHICAL POINTS:

NAVFAC, ELEUTHERA

25 DEGREES 17' N 76 DEGREES 20' W
25 DEGREES 20' N 76 DEGREES 18' W
25 DEGREES 17.5' N 76 DEGREES 16' W
25 DEGREES 15' N 76 DEGREES 18' W

AUTEC, ANDROS 25 DEGREES 45.6' N 77 DEGREES 49.4' W
24 DEGREES 50.7' N 77 DEGREES 43' W
24 DEGREES 51.7' N 77 DEGREES 34' W
23 DEGREES 57' N 77 DEGREES 15' W
23 DEGREES 52' N 77 DEGREES 17' W
23 DEGREES 52' N 77 DEGREES 17' W
23 DEGREES 45' N 77 DEGREES 20.5'
23 DEGREES 52.2' N 77 DEGREES 30.8' W

NON-EXCLUSIVE USE OF THE BAHAMIAN PORTION OF THE SUPERJACENT WATER ADJACENT TO AUTEC, ANDROS ISLAND, IS REQUIRED IN AN AREA BOUNDED BY THE SAME GEOGRAPHICAL POINTS LISTED FOR AUTEC ABOVE, END QUOTE.

2. EMBASSY PROPOSES FURNISHING ABOVE INFORMATION TO GCOB IN ORDER TO BE RESPONSIVE TO ITS SPECIFIC REQUEST REPORTED REFTEL AND AS A MATTER OF CURTESY TO A FRIENDLY NATION LOCATED IN THE GENERAL GEOGRAPHIC AREA.

3. EMBASSY EXPECTS THAT ABOVE LANGUAGE IS LIKELY TO ELICIT GCOB QUERY AS TO MEANING OF "BAHAMIAN PORTION" OF SEABED AND SUPERJACENT WATER. EMBASSY WOULD PLAN TO RESPOND THAT BAHAMIAN PORTION IS THAT DEFINED BY INTERNATIONAL LAW TO BE WITHIN BAHAMIAN JURISDICTION (I.E. AT PRESENT, 3 N.M. TERRITORIAL SEA AND SEABED RESOURCE JURISDICTION UNDER GENEVA CONVENTION). EMBASSY BELIEVES WE SHOULD MAKE CLEAR THAT WE CANNOT ACCEPT CONCEPT OF "RENT" ON AREAS OUTSIDE BAHAMIAN JURISDICTION, EVEN THOUGH THIS IS LIKELY TO RAISE ARCHIPELAGO ISSUE, AND EVEN THOUGH IN COURSE OF NEGOTIATIONS EMBASSY WILL SEEK TO FOCUS QUID DISCUSSIONS ON BAHAMIAN NEEDS AS OUTLINED IN TECHNICAL SURVEY REPORT RATHER THAN ON RENTAL CONCEPT FOR LAND OR SEABED. BUT
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THIS ISSUE WILL HAVE TO BE ADDRESSED, AND RELUCTANCE AT THIS POINT TO PROVIDE SEABED USE INFORMATION WHICH HAS BEEN SPECIFICALLY REQUESTED WOULD ONLY LEAD TO FURTHER DELAYS IN APPROACHING DEFINITIVE AGREEMENT.
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